

Complex Sentences

7c. A **complex sentence** contains one independent clause and at least one subordinate clause.

EXAMPLE Even though ^S ~~it was~~ ^V a gray, rainy day, ^S ~~Pilar~~ ^V **looked** forward to her walk in the park.

INDEPENDENT CLAUSE Pilar looked forward to her walk in the park

SUBORDINATE CLAUSE Even though it was a gray, rainy day

EXERCISE In each of the following sentences, draw one line under the independent clause and two lines under each subordinate clause. Then, write S above each subject and V above each verb.

Example 1. At the park, Pilar fed the ducks and swans, which quickly swam toward her.

1. Pilar looked for tiny fish and snails where the pond was shallow.
2. As she watched the fish and snails, she thought about a career in marine biology.
3. Her career plans had been all that she could think about since the Science Club took a field trip to a well-known oceanographic center.
4. Because the center was on a quiet shoreline, the scientists could study hundreds of forms of marine life.
5. Some students who had gone to the center last year had snorkeled around the tide pools.
6. Pilar became interested in Scripps Institution of Oceanography, which is a well-known oceanographic institute in San Diego, California.
7. Because her school computer had Internet access, Pilar could learn more about Scripps and marine biology.
8. First, she learned about research ships and their equipment when she looked at the Scripps Web site.
9. After she read an interview with a marine biologist, Pilar felt confident that marine biology was the career for her.
10. From the interview she learned that a marine biologist should have a good education, care about the environment, and enjoy travel.